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THE VIRGINIA BEACH YOUTH SERVICES CLUB PROVIDES MORE SPORTS PROGRAMS FOR LOCAL CHILDREN WITH AUTISM

FACT serves more children with autism with the addition of more Sports Programs

Virginia Beach, VA, February 13, 2017– Families of Autistic Children in Tidewater (FACT) is delighted to announce that the locally-based non-profit organization has received a \$7,000 grant from their beloved community partners, Virginia Beach Youth Services Club (VBYS). The VBYS is a local non-profit organization that raises money specifically for charities that support children in Virginia Beach. With the endorsement of FACT's sponsor, police Captain Mike Ronan, the VBYS granted these funds explicitly to underwrite their integrated Sports Programs. Specifically, FACT will add two more Sports Programs to their existing four, serving 90 local athletes with autism. Sports teach all children the same valuable lessons: communication, teamwork, and social skills- all of which are skills children with autism need reinforced the most.

20 year VBYS member and sponsor for FACT, police Captain Mike Ronan commented, "We put all of our effort into raising the maximum money to donate to our charities." These honorable men do not put money into advertising themselves, nor do they write themselves a paycheck. Their only priority is to raise money for these children's charities. Captain Ronan added that their intention is to help the charities that "impact the most amount of kids in order to provide the furthest reaching effect."

For 6 years now, FACT has been the beneficiary of the VBYS's charitable ways, including the purchase of a 15-passenger van to add to our fleet, two years of iCan Shine Bike camp, a bus for camp, and imperative software programs. Comprised of about 100 men from Virginia Beach, the VBYS raises about \$100,000 for local children's charities. After over 40 years of philanthropy, they continue to be the backbone for Virginia Beach children's charities

About FACT: The mission of F.A.C.T. is to improve the quality of life for individuals with autism and their families in the greater Tidewater Virginia area. We offer numerous programs to support our mission.

If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Pam Clendenen at 757.422.2040 or email at Camp4autism@gmail.com.